horizon. As such, whatever is available for extraction also can not be extracted at a time and the reserves are to be extracted in a sequential manner which takes time.

During the current year, a gap of about 36 MT was envisaged for power utilities which was to be met through imports. Power utilities have, however imported only 64% of the target. CIL has supplied more coal than the agreed target so far. However, in order to supplement the requirement of power utilities, CIL has tied up with M/s. MMTC for import of 4 MT of coal. Efforts are on to work out a detailed system for this supply of imported coal.

Besides, with a view to boosting domestic production, the Central Government has decided to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Act, 1973 to allow Indian companies, both in public and private sector, to mine coal in the country without the existing restriction of captive mining and to be engaged in exploration of coal in the country. Accordingly a Bill, namely, the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Amendment Bill, 2000 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 24.02.2000 and is pending for consideration.

Underground mining of coal

1016. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of underground mining projects that have come up since nationalization of coal mines in 1973, State-wise and what is the future programme of Government with regard to underground mining;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to underground mining only 30 per cent of coal could be extracted and the remaining 70 per cent cannot be extracted;

(c) if so, whether his Ministry is planning to adopt any new techniques or technologies to extract the maximum coal from the coal reserves in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) The state wise details of 264 underground (UG) mining projects taken up for implementation since nationalisation of coal mines in 1973 are as below:—

Sl. No.	State	Subsidiary	No. of projects	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	West Bengal	Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	38	39
		Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)	1	
2.	Jharkhand	Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	2	43
		Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)	24	
		Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)	17	
3.	Orissa	Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)	9	9

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Chhattisgarh	South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL)	47	47
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Western Coalfields Limited (WCL)	27	66
		South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL)	39	
6.	Maharashtra	Western Coalfields Limited (WCL)	23	23
7.	Andhra Pradesh	Sinagareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)	37	37
	TOTAL			264

To enhance UG Production, another 25 UG Mining Projects in Coal India Limited (CIL) for an estimated capacity of 18.36 Mty at an estimated capital investment of Rs. 3540 crores have also been identified to be taken up during Eleventh Plan.

(b) Percentage of extraction in underground mines varies from mine to mine depending on geo-mining conditions and method of mining. However, in general, the average percentage of extraction in underground mines varies from 15% to 45%.

(c) and (d) A road map for augmentation of underground production in CIL's existing mines has been prepared by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL). Some mines where the intermediate technology [Side Discharge Loader (SDL)/Load Haul Dumper (LHD)] is presently in operation are being identified for introduction of mass production technology including continuous Miner, Power Support Long wall system and High Wall Technology, which in turn will help to increase percentage of extraction from the in situ reserves.

Availability of 3G spectrum

1017. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment about the availability of 3G spectrum in each telecom circle;

(b) if so, the details of availability of 3G spectrum in each telecom circle, circle-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that some concerns have been expressed by telecom operators on the administrative charges proposed by TRAI on 3G spectrum; and

(d) if so, how the Government is planning to address the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of availability of 3G spectrum in each telecom circle, circle-wise, is given in the Statement. (*See* below).